



1 2527, Case No. 2:14-CV-557-KJD-CWH.

2 **II. Master Docket, Master File, and Separate Action Dockets**

3 A Master Docket and Base File are hereby established for the consolidated proceedings  
4 filed in or transferred to this Court as part of MDL No. 2527. The Base File is Case No. 2:14-  
5 CV-557-KJD-CWH, *In re: First National Collection Bureau, Inc., Telephone Consumer*  
6 *Protection Act (TCPA) Litigation*. The Clerk of Court shall file this Order in the Master File, and  
7 in the separate file of each action which is or may be consolidated with MDL No. 2527. Separate  
8 dockets and files shall be maintained for each action consolidated with MDL No. 2527.

9 **III. Attorney Appearances, Registration, Etc.**

10 A. Counsel who appeared in the transferor district court prior to the transfer need not  
11 enter a separate appearance before this Court.

12 B. No parties to any of these actions shall be required to obtain local counsel in this  
13 District and the requirements of Local Rule IA 10-2 are waived as to any attorney appearing in  
14 these actions who is duly admitted to practice and in good standing before any United States  
15 District or Appellate Court. Accordingly, pro hac vice motions shall not be required for such  
16 counsel.

17 C. All counsel are required to register and abide by the Electronic Filing Procedures  
18 pursuant to Special Order #109 for the District of Nevada.

19 **IV. Filing**

20 A. Generally

21 i. All filings in any of these actions shall be filed with the Clerk of this Court and  
22 not with the transferor district court.

23 ii. All filings must in an electronically searchable format.

24 iii. Where counsel for more than one party plan to file substantially identical  
25 papers, they shall join in the submission of such papers and shall file only one paper on  
26 behalf of all so joined.

1                   **B. Captions**

2                   All pleadings and motions shall bear the following caption:

4                   **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
5                   **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

6                   \* \* \*

7                   IN RE: FIRST NATIONAL COLLECTION  
8                   BUREAU, INC. TELEPHONE CONSUMER  
9                   PROTECTION ACT (TCPA) LITIGATION

MDL No. 2527

10                  THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:

Case No. 2:14-CV-557-KJD-CWH  
(Base File)

11                  When a document relates to all the actions consolidated here, the line below “THIS  
12                  DOCUMENT RELATES TO:” will read “ALL CASES.” When the document does not  
13                  relate to all the consolidated actions, the relevant individual docket numbers assigned by the  
14                  Clerk of this Court shall be listed below “THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:”

15                   **C. CM/ECF**

16                  Pursuant to Special Order #109, all documents filed in connection with these MDL  
17                  proceedings shall be filed electronically. It shall be the responsibility of counsel for all parties to  
18                  comply with Special Order #109 and register with the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing  
19                  (CM/ECF) system in the District of Nevada. Further instructions for registration may be obtained  
20                  from the Court’s website at [www.nvd.uscourts.gov](http://www.nvd.uscourts.gov).

21                   **V. Rules of Procedure**

22                  A. Except as otherwise provided by this Court, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and  
23                  the Local Civil Rules for the United States District Court for the District of Nevada shall govern  
24                  all proceedings herein.

25                  B. All discovery proceedings in these actions are stayed until further Order of this Court  
26                  and the time requirements to perform any acts or file any papers pursuant to Federal Rules of

1 Civil Procedure 26 and 37, and Local Rule of Civil Practice 26-1 are tolled until the first Pretrial  
2 Conference at which time a discovery schedule will be established.

3 C. Any Orders including protective orders previously entered by this Court or any  
4 transferor court shall remain in full force and effect unless modified by this Court upon  
5 application.

6 D. Hearings shall not be held on any motions filed except by Order of the Court upon  
7 such notice as the Court may direct.

8 **VI. Preparation for the First Pretrial Conference**

9 **A. Co-Lead Counsel**

10 Prior to the first pretrial conference, counsel for each group of parties whose interests are  
11 similarly aligned shall designate two (2) Co-Lead Counsel, subject to the approval of the Court.  
12 Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel shall have sole authority over the following matters on behalf of all  
13 Plaintiffs in actions consolidated in MDL No. 2527: (1) convening meetings of counsel for the  
14 parties; (2) initiation, response, scheduling, briefing and argument of all motions; (3) the scope,  
15 order, and conduct of all discovery proceedings; (4) the retention and preparation of experts; (5)  
16 delegation of work assignments to other counsel as Co-Lead Counsel shall deem appropriate; (6)  
17 designation of counsel to appear at hearings and conferences with the Court; (7) the timing and  
18 substance of any settlement negotiation with Defendants; (8) communications between the Court  
19 and other Plaintiffs' counsel, including receiving and distributing notices, orders, motions, and  
20 briefs on behalf of the group; and (9) otherwise assisting in the coordination of activities and  
21 positions. No motion, discovery request, or other pre-trial proceeding shall be initiated by any  
22 Plaintiff except through Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel.

23 Plaintiff's Co-Lead Counsel shall have sole authority to communicate with Defendants  
24 and the Court on behalf of all Plaintiffs in these actions. Agreements made between Plaintiffs'  
25 Co-Lead Counsel and Defendants shall be binding upon all counsel in these actions. Plaintiffs'  
26 Co-Lead Counsel shall reasonably coordinate with Defendants in scheduling depositions so as to

1 avoid subjecting witnesses to duplicative depositions in the various actions.

2 Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel shall direct all Plaintiffs' counsel to submit a periodic record  
3 of time expended on this litigation. Counsel who anticipate seeking an award of attorneys' fees  
4 from the Court shall keep daily time records of their time spent and expenses incurred in  
5 connection with this litigation, indicating with specificity the hours and particular activity.  
6 Failure to maintain and timely submit such records may, at the time of any fee allocation, be  
7 grounds for denying fees to that attorney. Insufficient description of hourly activity may likewise  
8 be a ground for denying fees.

9 **B. Service of All Papers**

10 Prior to the first pretrial conference, service of all papers shall be made on each of the attorneys  
11 of record in the Base File, Case No. 2:14-CV-557-KJD-CWH. At the first pretrial conference,  
12 the parties shall present to the Court a list of designated attorneys for purposes of service. Only  
13 one attorney for each party separately represented shall be included on this list.

14 **C. Schedule and Agenda for First Pretrial Conference**

15 All other matters will be discussed at the first Pretrial Conference to be held on June 16,  
16 2014 at 9:00am in Courtroom 3C before Judge Hoffman. Counsel shall file suggestions for items  
17 to be included on the agenda no later than two weeks prior to this Conference.

18 **VII. Communication Among Counsel**

19 The Court recognizes that cooperation by and among Plaintiffs' counsel and by and  
20 among Defendants' counsel is essential for the orderly and expeditious conduct of this litigation.  
21 The communication of information among and between Plaintiffs' counsel, or among and  
22 between Defendants' counsel, shall not be deemed a waiver of the attorney-client privilege or the  
23 protection afforded attorneys' work product, to the extent that such communications fall within  
24 the ambit of the attorney-client privilege, the work-product doctrine, and/or the common interest  
25 doctrine, and the cooperative efforts contemplated herein shall not in any way be used against  
26 any party to obtain discovery or other information that would otherwise be protected from

1 disclosure. Nothing contained in this provision shall be construed to limit the rights of any party  
2 or counsel to assert any of the above referenced doctrines.

3 **VIII. Miscellany**

4 A. These proceedings are before United States District Judge Kent J. Dawson and the  
5 Honorable Carl W. Hoffman, United States Magistrate Judge. All pre-trial non-dispositive  
6 matters shall be addressed to Judge Hoffman. All other matters shall be addressed to Judge  
7 Dawson.

8 B. Questions regarding filing and docketing of papers in the above action shall be directed to  
9 Summer Rivera, Docket Clerk at 702-464-5557.

10 C. Questions regarding conducting hearings or the status of motions filed shall be directed to  
11 Denise Saavedra, Courtroom Administrator at 702-464-5467.

12 D. The Court will be guided by the Manual for Complex Litigation, Fourth published by the  
13 Federal Judicial Center in 2004. Counsel are directed to familiarize themselves with that  
14 publication.

15  
16 DATED this 1st day of May 2014.



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19 Kent J. Dawson  
20 United States District Judge  
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## **SCHEDULE A**

**Eastern District of California**

NEAL V. FIRST NATIONAL COLLECTION BUREAU, INC., C.A. No. 2:13-01206

**Southern District of California**

HUNTER V. FIRST NATIONAL COLLECTION BUREAU, INC., C.A. No.

3:13-01515

## District of Nevada

BEELL V. FIRST NATIONAL COLLECTION BUREAU, INC., C.A. No. 2:13-01303